Statement to the Blue Ribbon Commission January 7, 2011 Laura Sorensen 40 Green Valley Rd Asheville, NC 28806

I am a taxpayer, utility ratepayer, founder of a small solar company, mother of two and recent grandmother. So much to be thankful for and yet my heart is sad to think of the future for our generations to come. Surely this commission has taken some time to reflect and search their hearts instead of their pecket books and fear? I wonder.

How can you call this an Energy Park like it's some kind of fun and fancy playground to experiment with the lives of hard working people and their children? The desert you serve up is rewable energy as the thin icing on a very dense, dark cake of nuclear reprocessing that is dry, over cooked and hard to swallow with no bathroom to expell the waste.

Oh but wait! We'll have lots of guns and bombs to play with because reprocessing will give us plutonium and little boys like to play with their weapons. It doesn't matter that mommy and daddy, (the taxpayers / ratepayers) don't want to pay for the bad toys or let their children play with explosives because little children don't think of the future or how this risk of destruction can harm the entire planet.

I think the pretend grown-ups in the government call this "National Security".

Please, lets get real and stop all the greenwashing with nuclear power. It's dangerous, dirty and expensive. The experimenting you want to do at this park is wasted taxpayer / ratepayer money being squandered to clean up a dirty past. I've read so many govt. documents my eyes are crossed, weary and frightened at the short sightedness of such well educated people.

It has taken me hours trying to keep all these numbers, technologies and agencies in my head but 2 plus 2 still doesn't make 4 when you read this stuff. In the end my heart has spoken.

I think we owe our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, great grandchildren and all the generations to come a BIG apology.

"We are so sorry to leave you with all this dangerous nuclear waste.

And we'll try not to drive it all over creation and expose you to the radiation and in the end we WILL take care of the mess we made!"

And then like responsible adults we should follow through with integrity, look our kids in the eye and say, "Don't you worry, we learned our lesson and we won't make nuclear power anymore because we love and care about you. We will give you a clean, safe planet to live on . We promise."